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Aegean Archaeology. An Introduction to the Archaeology of Prehistoric Greece. Pp. XXI+270. By H. R. HALL. G. P. Putnam's Sons: New York, 1915.

Several good general books about Crete have appeared in English in recent years, such as Mosso, *Palaces of Crete and Their Builders*; Boyd-Hawes, *Crete the Forerunner of Greece*; Baikie, *Sea-Kings of Crete*; and especially Burrows, *The Discoveries in Crete*. The first three are too popular and the last gives too much attention to Egyptian chronology and is sadly lacking in illustrations. Hall's new book fills a long-felt want and is the best account in English of Aegean Archaeology and especially of the excavations in Crete. There are excellent articles by Evans and Hogarth on Crete and Aegean Civilization in the last edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and on Aegean Religion in Hastings' *Dictionary of Religion and Ethics*; but Mr. Hall gives succinctly a general survey of all the remains of the ancient Aegean (Minoan and Mycenaean) civilization of prehistoric Greece in the Bronze Age, not only in the islands but on the mainland. The book begins with a general introduction explaining the scope of the work and describes in chapter II the excavations which have been revealing this great civilization, from the time of Schliemann to that of Evans and other modern investigators. Then in the following chapters are sketched the results of the excavations, the works in stone and metal, the development of the beautiful pottery, the architecture of the towns such as Gournia and Psira, of the houses, of the palaces such as Knossos, Phaistos, and Hagia Triada, of the fortresses, roads, etc. Then follows an account of the temples and tombs and a discussion of the decoration of the buildings with frescoes and sculpture and a survey of the smaller art. In chapter VIII the method of writing and the system of weights and measures are treated at length. In chapter IX costume, armor, weapons and tools, ships, domestic animals, etc. are the subjects. The matter of the volume is mainly artistic and cultural and one important feature is the excellent illustrations (33 plates, 112 figures, and one map) which make the volume of more value and interest than Burrows. Many of the familiar illustrations, such as the Tiryns bull fresco, are omitted but the latest finds at Knossos, Phaistos, Hagia Triada, and even at Tylissos (such as the Rodinque bronze statuette of a praying man), Goules, and Tiryns are reproduced. We have the recently discovered frescoes of the hunt, of chariots, and of the boar hunt from Tiryns; but we miss the beautiful and important fresco from Knossos representing boy and girl toreadors doing acrobatic feats over the back of a bull. We miss the beautiful steatite bull's head from Knossos, of which one sees reproductions in America at Johns Hopkins, at the Metropolitan Museum in

New York, and elsewhere. We miss Karo's restoration of the Harvesters' Vase. We have on pl. XIX the bronze praying woman in Berlin but unfortunately the wonderful chryselephantine snake goddess in Boston was published too late to be included in the present work.

Another excellence of the book is that it is written by a scholar who is assistant in the Department of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities in the British Museum and who is so thoroughly familiar with Egypt and its Aegean connections that he can give the proper perspective to Aegean Archaeology. Mr. Hall has already won a high seat as an authority on matters Minoan and Mycenaean by his *Oldest Civilization of Greece* and by his recent book *Ancient History of the Near East* (1913) which should be read to supplement the Aegean Archaeology by all who are interested in the history and ethnology of the early Aegeans.

The book shows a thorough digestion of all the literature of the subject. The only titles I miss are Lichtenberg's excellent little book, *Die Aegäische Kultur*, Leaf's *Troy*, and Deonna's interesting monograph on the toilet of Minoan ladies. In general on debated points Mr. Hall takes the right point of view. However the violin-like and other marble island figures (pl. XIV) are scarcely meant to represent the dead (p. 25) but are probably idols. Some will doubt that the Lion Gate at Mycenae was made by Cretans and that Tiryns and Mycenae were actually built by Cretans, though no one will now deny Cretan influence; because in Crete there are no great walls like those of Tiryns and Mycenae.

Mistakes are few. Mycenae was destroyed in 468, not 456 B. C. (p. 9) and parts of the missing pillars from the Treasury of Atreus are in Athens as well as in the British Museum (p. 15). P. 32, read westward for eastward; p. 33 pl. XV, 2 for 3. P. 36, some of the Gournia vases are in America. P. 57, the position of the net in which the bull is caught on the Vaphio cups shows that the top as well as the bottom of the cups is thought of as the ground and that "the ragged clouds of a Cretan sky" are due to Mr. Hall's imagination. There are several bad mistakes in Greek accent such as (p. XI) 'Εφήμερις, (p. 143) βασιλικούς, (p. 263) 'Ακροπολείς, etc. Misprints occur but not frequently and the last sentence on p. 179 has no proper syntax.

In short Hall's *Aegean Archaeology* is the best book on the subject in English, though attention should be called to the superior work of Dussaud, *Les Civilisations Préhelléniques dans le Bassin de la Mer Egée* (2d edition 1914).

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